G. R. S. 58
Previous references.

1887
~~1910~~.
(Sep. Rev.)

Later references.

File No. 8 of 87-88

Serial Nos. 1—4

22

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

Serial Nos. 1—4

Index
~~Part B.~~ for January 1888.

SUBJECT.

Opium Smuggling into Vellore from Bangalore.

1. From — The A. Resident in Mysore
Mysore 5849/629. No 3546/6187 dt. 4. 11. 87.
Requests to make enquiries in the matter of Opium Smuggling into Vellore from Bangalore.

2. Do. The Deputy Commr, Bangalore dtd
Camp 5th 17/11/87 - 5-11-87.
Forwards copy of the above for early enquiry & Report

Secretariat

G.P.B.—8,000—7-4-09

3. From — The Deputy Commr, Bangalore dtd.
7509/696. D. No 7946/87 - 20-1-88.
Reports on enquiry as to Opium Smuggling into Vel

To - The F.A. Resident in Mysore.

Camp No 2402 Dy. 25.1.88

Suggests to have a Committee of two Principal Officers one from Madras, the other from Mysore to enquire fully into the matter and to make certain arrangements to ensure prevention of opium smuggling in future, and requests to submit a joint report upon which final orders would be passed.

To. The Deputy Commr, Bangalore City

Camp No 2403 Dy - 25.1.88.

Ry & the above

9
S. 33.

SECTION S. R

FILE No. 8/87

SER AI No. 1

(General Serial No. 31.)

1887.

OFFICE OF THE DEWAN PESHKAR
5844
15 NOV. 87
629

From The Asst to the Resident in Mysore

To Captain Lewis Pelly Political Agent Bangalore

Dated 5th November 1887

Despatched 13/11/87

Received 15/11/87

Enclosures No. 1

General No. 3596

No. 1/87

Requesting to make enquiries in the matter of Opium smuggling into Vellore from Bangalore

File Heading

The road is clear

Camp Regd No 559 &
5-11-87

No. 3596 Encl.
6187

FROM

L. WHITE KING, Esq. C. S.,

ASSISTANT TO THE RESIDENT IN MYSORE.

To

Forwarding for the Dewan of Mysore
Enclosed Note for
Bangalore for Early Enquiry
& report.
5/11/87

Dated, Bangalore, 1st 11 November 1887.

SIR,

I am directed to forward a Copy of letter No 900 dated 24th September 1887 from the Collector of North Arcot and of its enclosure, in which it is alleged that opium is smuggled into Vellore from Bangalore and to request that you will be so good

s to cause enquiries to be made into the matter, and to communicate the result of the

Offg: Residents information.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servt,

Charles Rivis

Assistant to the Residents

Enclosed 1

No 900. North Arcot, Collectors Office
Camp Palamanair 24th Septr: 1887

From,

W. N. Glenny Esqr.
Collector of
North Arcot.

To

The Resident, Bangalore

Sir,

I have the honor to forward to you for Consideration a Copy of the letter (No 767 dated 17-9-87) from the Superintendent of Police of this District.

I have &c.
Sd Majorbanks.
for Collector.

No 767. North Arcot
Dist: Police Office
Chittoor 17th Septr: 1887

From,

C. S. B. Stevenson Esqr.
Superintendent of Police
North Arcot

To

The District Magistrate

With reference to the enclosed petition from the Opium Renters of Vellore Taluq, I have the honour to inform you that I made careful enquiries regarding the point in question, it is very difficult to make any suggestions as to the manner in which opium smuggling in small quantities by rail can best be dealt with. It is impossible for the men of this District to obtain reliable information from Bangalore to warrant their searching passengers by rail on their arrival at Vellore.

2. I am of opinion that the following facts show where the root principles, the Vendors of this district and particularly at Vellore which place is closely connected with Bangalore on account of the Native Regiments at these places.

3. The licence dealers at Bangalore buy opium from the authorities at 3 Rupees per Rupee and sell at 1-5 thus making a profit of

5 anna as per Rupee. The Vendors at Vellore sell opium at Rs 2-4-0 as per 3 tolas. I am informed (I cannot positively prove it) that the dealers at Bangalore sell opium in large quantities to whoever applies to them: whereas the Act restricts the sale to 3 tolas to each individual, It may perhaps be found that the Bang. Vendors do not post their sales daily but several days afterwards. The Vendors in Vellore and Chittoor state that if any trustworthy Office unconnected with Bangalore is sent with them they will prove the very lax way in which large quantities of opium is sold to unlicensed persons from North Arcot, Madras and elsewhere, they also assure me it is being sold in a most public way.

I have &c.

Sd/ E. Stevens

Supte: of Police

"Copies"

Henry Cleveland

Registrar.

(General Serial No. 31.) y. 7

1887. 8 Letter from Collector.

SECTION S.R

FILE No. 80 of 87

SERIAL No. 2

From

To The Dy Commissioner of Bangalore Dt.

Dated 5th November 87

Despatched

Received

Enclosures No.

Camp General No. 1741

(Here enter letter No 900 dated 24th September 1887. and its enclosure from the Collector of North Arcot to the ~~Asst~~ Resident in Mysore on the subject of Opium Smuggling into Vellore)

Camp No 1741. dated 5th November 1887

Copy of the above is forwarded to the Dy Commr of the Bangalore Distt for early enquiry & report.

"By order"

Draft

Chief Secretary

(General Serial No. 29.)

1888. 7509 696

From The Bg Commissr Bangalore District

To The Chief Secretary to the Dewan of Mysore

Dated 20 January

Despatched

Received

Enclosures No. are -

General No. } 1888.
No. 794

Reporting on enquiry as to opium smuggling into Vellore -

SECTION Genl. S.R
Internal
FILE No. 8187
SERIAL No. 3

To The Asst Resdt

Sir

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of yr letter No. 3596 of 1888 (Genl Sect and 6187 Judl and to return herewith for the information of the Resident copies of the marginally noted correspondence reporting the result of the enquiries made as to the allegation made by the Collr of North Arcot that opium is smuggled into Vellore from Bangalore. It is for the Resident to take such action as he deems proper on report of the 2 cases that occurred in the C Mr Station which are referred to in the Memo of the Shrestd and I am &c &c

with regard to the

From Asst Resdt No 3978
6187

Inclosed
23/1

prevention measures that should be taken to prevent future smuggling as affects the interests of both the Madras Govt I am to suggest that a Cadre of two principal Offrs are below Madras & the other to Bangalore appointed to enquire

through with all matters
connected with the sales
of Opium & Ganja in Assam (including the Province of Manipur)
In those Tables of the Masters
Duty which are bordering on Assam
and to submit a joint
report for the consideration
of Govt. upon a which
final orders may be
passed, that the present smuggling
but to regulate the sales
the drugs upon such
terms & conditions as may
be deemed necessary
in the interests of both the Govts.

Yours

CRP

25/1

Exc

Dy. Commissioner's Office
Bangalore District
Camp Doddaballapur 19th January

Dept No 794
1

To.

The Chief Secretary
to the Dewan of Mysore

Sir,

In reply to your No 1741 of the 5th November last, requesting enquiry as to opium smuggling into Bellary; I have the honor to enclose in original Memo: dated 21st Ultmo, from the Special Assistant Commissioner Abkary and Excise, and to state that it is very desirable that the officers of the Excise Department should receive every support in carrying out the Excise laws in force.

2. On the requisition of the Special Assistant Commissioner

the cancellation of licenses whether
arrack or drug, when deemed
necessary to support the action
of officers of the Excise Department
and to serve as a deterrent to
others, should always receive
favourable consideration. In
the two cases referred to, in paras
2 and 7 of the memo, I hope that
the Collector of the Fort and Military
Station may be asked to cancel
the licenses adverted to.

I shall place myself in
communication with the Collectorates
bordering on Mysore Territory
and obtain data, as to the selling
prices of opium there, and shall
direct the Special Assistant
Commissioner, to submit a further
report as to the enhancement

of the rates he proposes. It appears to me that it is the only way of putting down Swindling and benefiting Albany revenue.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most obedient Servant

F. W. Clark

Hon. Dy Commissioner

Encl: W

Memorandum on the working of Opium Rules in the Bangalore Civil and Military Stat

Chief Secretarys Registerd dt^o 1741 dated 5th Instant received with Deputy Commissioners endorsement Registered dt^o 604 dated 11th Idem in re-opium smuggling from Mysore into Her Majesty's Territories.

1 Adverting to para 3 of the North Arcot Police Superintendents Letter received with the abov has the honor to state that the Opium is purchased from Government at 6 annas 3 pies per tola and for 3 tolas it would amount to Rs 1-2-9 and n as stated for 3 tolas one Rupee. It is retailed in Mysore at Rs 1-6-6 per three tolas and not at Rs 1-5-4 as stated. The Mysore Vendors profit on the Retail sale of one Rupee's worth of Opium is not 5 annas but only 2 annas 8 pies the profit on a seer of 24 tolas being Rs 1-14-4 to the Vendor.

2 The Special Assistant Commissioner was aware that illegal sales were effected beyond the limit of 3 tolas fixed by Law. This is a most difficu case to bring home to a Vendor. One of the Vendors in the Cantonment, suspected of a breach of the pro was first warned. He then was ably run in by the new Detective Assistant Supervisor Rajendrum Pillay and aided by Tester Prakasam &c and in a contested case defended by Mr^r Advocate Gooch and assisted by another Advocate the

Special Assistant Commissioner had the Vendor convicted and fined Rs 10. The Collector of the Station was then asked to cancel his License as besides selling 6 tolas, the man sold opium at Rs 10-8-0 or less than the authorized rate of Rs 11-4-0 per seer, fined by Government. This latter offence enabled him to have a monopoly of the sales which at this shop rose from 12 to 40 seers monthly. The Collector however would not cancel the licens held by the Holder but simply dismissed the Vendor who was the Holder's relation. The close connection existing in this case between Holder and Vendor (Brother's-in-law) thus rendered the small fine imposed, in face of the enormous profits made and the glaring breach of the rules a nominal punishment, and the cancellation of the Liconse which would have served as a deterrent and warning to the other shop-keepers not having been effected, all the efforts made by this Department in this case were thus rendered nugatory.

3. Both in the City and Cantonment of Bangalor several persons having more than 3 tolas have been run in and punished and the Opium confiscated. In the City case Major Macintire fined the party Rs 50 and confiscated the Opium In the Cantonmen the Magistrate only inflicted a fine of Rs 15 and 10 on the two parties concerned.

4. The Law allows one person to purchase 3 tolas and he can legally retain the same in his possession. A family of say 4 adults could thus legally get half a seer a day from each shop. There are 10 Opium shops in the station. This family could illegally though readily thus buy 5 seers in one day The Special Assistant Commissioner fails to see

how the Opium shop-keepers of Bangalore
in this case be punished for making such sale
or this Department blamed for laxness in enforc
the law as it now stands. The Vendors are not boun
to enquire into the relationship of purchasers or
if their friends wish to aid them in this matte
if such were their intention or not? It is not
practicable for this Department short handed
as it is to run in purchasers making such
illegal purchases and without adequate
means of search or the staff to search, at all
the outlets of the station, to find out if the stock
thus illegally purchased is exported and
detection is therefore next to impracticable.
5 There was till lately only one Tester
but from 1st April 1887 the staff has been raise
to 2 and each Tester has been given an Excise
officer to assist him. But with a population of
155,827 souls in Town and Cantonment and
111 shops arrack and drug to supervise, these
Testers have more than enough to do to over-
haul these shops and enforce the License Rule
The Resident's Treasury is credited to the extent of
13,000 Rupees yearly for Opium and Ganja
and the Value of the drugs sold amounts to
Rs 23,438 and though the late Collector Maj
Maltby asked for a small allowance being
granted to the Excise Department to supervis
drugs the Resident negatived the proposal.
Mysore servants are thus doing work for
the Civil and Military Station unremu-
-nerated and too in the face of the

handsome sum realled from drugs by the Residents Treasury.

6 But this is not all. The Magistrate having rejected the testimony of two Testers on a question of fact which occured in open day when they visited an arrack shop in the discharge of their public duties and fined the Tester Rs 10 and refused the Tester the right to prosecute the complainant and principal witness for perjury, four Excise officers are now deligated to visit each shop. The perjured Licene Holder who was the complainant in that case was previously brought red-handed in the city with false measures He was fined in a previous case Rs 30 and the License of that shop in the Cantonment was Cancelled. He was fined in the present case Rs 15. He was directly implicated and aided and abetted in three other cases, in another shop the commission of breach of License Rules and all those parties were convicted and fined for this man mischief-loving propensities. At this instigation two other men were made to falsely personate vendors, other than those named in the License, before the Magistrate and the Collector respectively. Yet this very man still holds a License while the Government Tester, without redress, carries the stigma of a fine obtained through interested motives by perjured witness whom the court refused the Tester permission to prosecute therefor. A proposal is now however

before the Government to revise the rates so as to secure a sum which will provide a larger detective staff for the whole province and especially for the City and Station of Bangalore. The measure has been so drawn up as to meet the concurrence of both Contractors and Retail dealers and is now under consideration of Government.

7. From the foregoing it will be clearly seen that this Department short handed as it is labouring at a serious disadvantage and the want of countenance and support so much needed by it in the station is much felt. The Special Assistant Commissioner fails to see why the Excise officers in ellipore cannot be trusted to co-operate with their confreres in Her Majesty's Territory. Surely the officers here are as trustworthy as the men in Madras and the Special Assistant Commissioner can be relied on to aid such officers in bringing to justice, offenders against the Opium Laws? The Superintendent of Police North Arcot is labouring under a misapprehension as to the non-posting of the accounts by opium vendors daily in Bangalore. This is rigidly insisted on and is carried out regularly every day. Stock is also taken at uncertain intervals. A difference in the balance entails forfeiture of the Opium and the Vendor is prosecuted for keeping false accounts. Opium is largely sold from a cash upto 26 cashes worth, and the daily sales are as

igh as for 1,560 casks worth, and more of Opium in a single shop. Do the Vendors in Madras keep detailed accounts for such sales and to whom sold and are such sales only made to those whom the Vendor knows so that a breach of the 3 tola law may if it occurs be detected and punished? The great difference in the selling prices of Opium in Mysore and the Madras Presidency, is a powerful incentive to surreptitious trade. While this difference exists the Spl. Assistant Commissioner fears that no effective check can be maintained on what is praticallyy illegal purchase for contrabance export, unless indeed a system which honest purchases might mistake for espionage were adopted.

8 It may be here stated that it is hopeless to suppress the contraband trade in a drug such as Opium unless Government can fix the selling retail price for all India. This is done for the whole of Mysore, where one rate prevails. The price was raised in Proceedings No. 6865-75/149 dated 18th March 1885 by 25 per cent and fixed weights are used all over Mysore. It is now under the Special Assistant Commissioner's consideration to propose a still further enhancement of the retail rate to render it as high or nearly as high as in adjacent Districts in Her Majesty's Territory bordering the Mysore State. But the Madras Government must co-operate and fix the price there. It is the only practicable and effectual remedy to stamp out smuggling as the main stay of

unequal

retail rates being so much as 4½ annas per tola between the two places would when equalized then offer inducement for ~~any~~ one breaking the Opium laws, at least in the interior.

9. In conclusion the Special Assistant Commissioner would respectfully point out that while the Superintendent of Police North Arcot is so exercised relative to the smuggling in of Opium into Vellore from Bangalore, he overlooks the great hardship and ~~be~~ heavy loss the Mysore State suffers by the people of Her Majesty's Territory smuggling in Ganja into Mysore. A maund of Ganja can be had for 3 or 4 Rs. in Madras, ~~and~~ but it is sold in Mysore for Rs. 25. Look how much revenue the former government loses! Here again the only remedy is that proposed for Opium and it is respectfully suggested that His Highness Government and the Resident may be earnestly solicited to conjointly move the Governments of Madras and India to attain the object aimed at in the manner proposed in Para 9 of this report.

[signature]

SECTION S.R

FILE No. 8/87

SERIAL N. 4

Camp No: 2402.

To,

The Assistant to the Resdt.
in Mysore.

Mysore, 25th January 1888.

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 3596/6187, dated 1st Nov last, and to forward herewith for the information of the Offg Resident, copies of the marginally noted correspondence, reporting the result of the inquiries made as to the allegation ~~made by~~ of the Collector of South Arcot, that opium is smuggled into Vellore from Bangalore. It is for the Resident to take such action as he deems proper, in regard to the 2 cases that occurred in the Civil & Military Station, and which are referred to in the Memo of the Special Aspt

* No. 794 dated 19th January 1888. from Offr Dy Commr Bangalore.
Memo: dated 21st ult: from Special Aspt Commr. Abkari & Excise.

There should be a reply to ~~Resolution~~ this.

Assistant Commissioner,
Abkari & Excise.

2. With regard to the measures that should be taken to prevent future smuggling, so as to protect the interests of both the Madras & Mysore Govts, I am to suggest that a Committee of two principal Officers, one belonging to Madras and the other to Mysore, be appointed to enquire thoroughly into all matters connected with the sales of opium and Ganja in Mysore (including the Civil and Military Station of Bangalore) and in those ~~Talukas~~ collectorates of the Madras Presidency which are bordering on Mysore, and to submit a joint report, upon a consideration of which, final orders may be passed not only to prevent smuggling, but also

should it be considered desirable that the Officers of Mysore should plan themselves in direct communication with some of the Madras Officers the measures suggested in para 2 of my Office letter

1-

to regulate the sale of the drugs upon such terms and conditions as may be deemed necessary in the interests of both the Governments.

I have &c.

29/1

For Chief Secretary

X Camp No. 24c

I do not know whether the Commandant with reference to this letter, with a request that the action proposed in the latter in para 2 may be stayed pending the Residents' reply to this letter

29/1

9/0.35

1887-8

To The Asstt Resident

Dr Mommee Bungalow

Dated 25th January 188

Camp No 2402 2403.